2. (Amended) A method, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hyperlipidemic is dosed with from about 250 [parts] milligrams to about 3000 [parts by weight] milligrams of nicotinic acid.

3. (Amended) A method as set forth in Claim 1 which causes little or no serious liver damage[, uric acid increases or elevations in fasting glucose levels].

4. (Amended) A method as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the release rate of said nicotinic acid[or compound metabolized by the body to nicotinic acid] is from about 2.0% per hour to about 25% per hour.

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5. (Twice amended) A method as set forth in Claim [1] 4 wherein said nicotinic acid[or compound metabolized to nicotinic acid by the body] is prepared by formulating the active compound with from about 5 to about 50 parts by weight of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose per 100 parts by weight of tablet.

6. (Amended) A method, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said nicotinic acid[or compound metabolized to nicotinic acid by the body] is dosed in the form of a sustained release [formulation or] tablet containing from about 1 to about 4 parts by weight of binder per 100 parts by weight of tablet.

7. (Amended) A method, as set forth in Claim [1] 6, wherein said binder is polyvinyl pyrrolidone.

8. (Amended) A method, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said nicotinic acid[or compound metabolized to nicotinic acid by the body] is dosed in the form of a sustained release [formulation or] tablet comprising from about 0.5 to about 2.5 parts by weight of a lubricating agent per 100 parts by weight of tablet.